

THE HAWAIIAN GAZETTE

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THE ADVERTISER'S SEMI-WEEKLY

Now Is the Appointed Time

THE chamber of commerce has decided that it will not enter politics as a body, and in making that decision the chamber acted wisely. It would have been inexpedient, to say the least, for a purely commercial organization to create a precedent that would return to vex it time and time again.

But the obligation remains upon the business men of this city to get into politics as individuals and to do it right away. The immediate future of Honolulu demands it; the reputation of the business men as good business men requires it, and the performances of the business men during the past few weeks makes it imperative, unless these business men are satisfied to be known as irresponsibles who act on everything but judgement.

There is not a member of the chamber of commerce who is not a man of some influence in this community, and who, if he would enter in earnest into the political affairs of the municipality, could not help materially in inducing good candidates to offer themselves for the various elective positions and in securing the election of a majority of such candidates. This influence cannot and should not, even if it could, be exerted through any non-political organization, but through each individual himself, acting first in his own precinct and from thence through his own district and into the municipality at large.

Doing politics is the simplest thing in the world. It consists of a willingness to sacrifice a little personal leisure to the common good, an inclination to get acquainted with neighbors and to confer with them on the problems of the day, a sense of fairness in being willing to listen to the other fellow, and to get his point of view and enough common sense to compromise on nonessentials for the sake of main issues.

It can be done by the business men now; it must be done by them eventually. It means some work and some effort by and from each business man individually, not as a member of the chamber of commerce but as a citizen of Honolulu.

It would be a mistake for the chamber to go into the municipal campaign as a body, but it will be a far greater mistake if the members of that chamber take yesterday's vote as an excuse for a further shirking of their duty to help this city at this time.

E. D. Tenney, before a gathering of representative business men of Honolulu a few weeks ago, expressed the sentiment that the business of the municipality was his business as well, and that hereafter he intended to devote some share of his time to looking after that part of his business. This sentiment was loudly applauded.

A few days ago the business men of the city marched in protest against something that had been done very largely through their own failure of the past.

Now is the time to show that the applause given to the sentiment of Mr. Tenney meant more than noise and now is the time to demonstrate that the recent march upon the Capitol meant something beside a few moments of hysteria.

Now is the time to kick; now is the time to protest against inefficiency and extravagance; now is the time to put into action what the business men for two years have been putting into words and writing into resolutions.

The business men have complained that they were laughed at when they made their splurge against the convention charter. They were laughed at and they will be laughed at more than ever if they allow the only opportunity for at least two years to do something really effective to glide past them ungrasped.

They were laughed at because they were many months too late in their parade. Now is their chance to show that he who laughs last laughs best.

General Strong, in asking the police commission to investigate charges of cruelty made by two enlisted men against certain police officers, urged that an example be made of these officers if the charges should be proven. The charges were proven and one of the policemen is suspended for fifteen days. This makes a farce out of it. The officer should not only have been summarily discharged from the force, but he should have been prosecuted. Ordinary justice demanded severe punishment, even if General Strong had not asked that an example be made to prevent in the future what has been complained of so frequently in the past and what is, more than anything else, keeping up the lack of harmony between soldiers and civilians in this city. Sheer brutality, such as was proven in the case of these police officers, should have been met with severe punishment, not so much as a punishment for the particular officers concerned as for a lesson to all other policemen. The police commissioners have lost a valuable opportunity.

The joke of the week is the grave statement in a veto message from the Governor that an act of the legislature is ungrammatical.

Hawaii's Duty Today

WHEN the United States department of agriculture, almost coincident with the declaration of war, announced a probable fifty million bushel shortage in the 1917 winter wheat crop, stock exchange prices for that staple jumped fifteen cents in one day. This is why flour and bread prices have suddenly jumped to famine level, our country in the mean time having virtually contracted to feed the Allies, as well as care for the dietary needs of our own population.

A larger acreage was planted in wheat during the autumn of 1916 than had ever previously been sown, but despite the increase in acreage, untoward weather conditions such as drought, high winds, and less than the normal snowfall in the principal wheat growing districts have resulted in heavy prospective losses to the farmers and diminution of the yields.

The Governors of all the cereal producing States have already taken counsel with agricultural college deans and presidents, and with the directors of the various experiment stations, who in turn have published through the medium of the daily press, instructions as to what crops to plant to replace the winter wheat deficiency. No great mystery is being made of the food situation, on the mainland. Here in Hawaii, on the contrary, the food problem is being enshrouded in a veil of fog, for what reason, even the wisest government official is unable or unwilling to disclose.

Patriotic Americans on the mainland recognize the national obligation which goes hand-in-glove with our active participation in the world-war. They are not "cornering" food supplies, or filling their private cellars and storehouses with canned goods, flour and meats. There has been no mystery made of the situation. As a result, selfish hoarding has played but little part in the rising prices resultant from the assumption of new national obligations.

Hawaii has its part to play in the conduct of the war, by continuing to produce large crops of sugar to help out the domestic supply—by practicing economy in merchandise consumption—by the avoidance of luxury—by learning how to live as a self-supporting and self-respecting community—and by diverting more of the abnormal profits of the last few years to internal development.

Since sugar went to the five-cent basis there has been an orgy of speculation in Hawaii. We are now entering into the greatest war of the centuries, and ought to amend our point of view accordingly.

It takes big men to meet danger, but the danger as far as Hawaii is concerned is not that these Islands might be invaded, or taken over by an Oriental power, but that in our provincialism we be unable to see the plain straight road where the path of duty lies. Hawaii must continue to do its share in keeping the world's sugar bowl heaped and overflowing. We must in a certain measure learn to feed ourselves, not primarily from a defensive or selfish point of view but because it has become one of our obligations to feed the millions of European soldiers who are making their lives, their all, that the enjoyment of individual liberty may be preserved to our children's children as a perpetual heritage.

That, and that alone should be the supreme reason for adopting a saner viewpoint concerning the food supply here for the immediate future. Times and events call for bigger ideas and a broader outlook, than have thus far been presented to our view by the territorial appointive officials to whom we have the right to look for wise advice and courageous leadership.

There is a big enough winter wheat crop to feed the entire population of the United States, if our leaders at the National Capitol were only bent on feeding America—to let Europe go hang. Fortunately the shame of open expression of such sentiments in high places has been avoided. Small minds think such things and cowards give them tongue, for as surely as great emergency breeds the men to meet the situation, it likewise stirs the fowl dregs and paltry souls to the surface.

Hawaii is in no danger of starvation. Some small economies are all that we are going to be asked to share, and to make the administrative burden lighter at Washington we must begin to economize and do what we may to limit necessity for imports. Monopoly such as has been attempted recently among the local rice growers is dastardly, and deserves all the punishment a united business community can mete to those who consummated it. It was based on the provincial idea often hinted by small men in high places—that this group of fly specks on the Pacific map is the prize for which all the world is fighting, an absurdity that would be humorous in more peaceful times.

It should not be necessary to remind any of the guardsmen of Hawaii that marriage since the declaration of war does not qualify the groom for discharge under the general order. Nor will marriage since April 6 entitle the groom to immunity when the selective draft plan is put into force.

Three cheers for the good ship Mongolia and the bluejackets who man her guns! A straight aim, a stout heart and a good cause is a combination against which piracy cannot last.

Considering all the war there is going on, Les Darcy seems to have a hard time locating a fight.

BREVITIES

(From Wednesday Advertiser) On a charge of having received stolen goods, T. J. Mix was arrested last night. Ben Neihger was taken to police headquarters last night and held for safe-keeping. J. Ashman Bowen, manager of the American-Hawaiian Paper Company, announced his candidacy yesterday as supervisor on the Republican ticket.

News was received here yesterday of the death in New York City on April 5 of Marjorie Jacob, the eight-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Eze Battello, formerly of this city. Two successful gambling raids were carried out last night. The first victims to fall gave their names as Ah Wai, Cheon Book and Charles Akaan. The names given by those caught in the second raid were F. P. Kahapea, M. Kahapea, Joseph Kaleo, D. Kapu, Joseph Palenapa, Dan Koola and Chun Hing.

To be used in the battle against the outbreak of influenza on the island of Kaula, two hundred doses of vaccine which have been received from San Francisco are being at once despatched to the Garden Island. It is the opinion in well-informed circles that this prompt action will aid greatly in stamping out the disease.

Miss Helen P. Barnes, general secretary of the Y. W. C. A. in Australia will shortly be the guest of the local association and of its president, Mrs. W. F. Fear. She has a record of much useful service in the organization, has been a secretary in Ohio and West Virginia, a member of the national committee and is known as one of the most active workers in the association.

(From Thursday Advertiser) Ah Tong and Secarde were arrested yesterday, charged with disorderly conduct.

James M. Kalewoli and C. Piper were arrested yesterday and held for investigation.

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Boggs, of 1045 Kaula Road, Kailua, died yesterday.

The police records show that Manuel Jousnis was arrested last night on a charge of robbery.

William Beckman, Vincent Pedro, Annie Lankina and Henry Geyer were taken to police headquarters last night for safe-keeping.

Members of the Free Kindergarten and Children's Aid Association are invited to attend the opening of Aala Park playground Saturday afternoon at three o'clock, by the superintendent of parks and playgrounds.

Taking as his subject the financial conditions of America, D. W. Parry, representative of the National City Bank of New York, was the principal speaker at the Ad Club luncheon held at the Alexander Young Hotel yesterday.

Navy divers are now at work in the slips between Piers 7 and 8 recovering objects thrown overboard from the German ships when their engine rooms were being demolished, and going over the hulls of the Pompera and Setos, now moored at Pier 7.

Owing to the fact that the government has decided to furnish steel to the fabricators at cost plus ten per cent bids for the construction of twelve hollow buildings for the Hawaiian Ordnance Depot, which were received yesterday, were not opened. They will be opened on May 2.

A. W. van Valkenburg of B. F. Dillingham and Company, C. K. Al of the City Mill Company, and A. S. Prescott of the Standard Oil Company, filed a protest with the supervisors Tuesday night against including Iwilei in the fire limits as now planned by an ordinance before the board. Their protest was noted but was not passed upon.

The defensive area about Honolulu harbor prescribed by orders of the navy department which were received by Capt. George B. Clark, of the local naval district, is stated therein to be as follows: "Outer limit, area of circle centers Diamond Head light and Honolulu harbor light, radii, nine nautical miles. Inner limit, line across channel at No. 7 fixed light."

WOULD ABOLISH STAMP DUTY ON LEGAL PAPER

Finance Committee of House Says Law is Obnoxious

That the Territory can stand the loss of thirty thousand dollars a year which it derives a year from stamp duties on legal paper is the opinion of the finance committee, which yesterday recommended to passage Representative Wilder's H. R. 246. The report was adopted and the measure comes up for third reading in the house today. In part, the report is as follows: "This bill seeks to repeal the stamp duties, and while this will decrease the revenues of the Territory to the extent of some thirty thousand dollars per annum, your committee feels that the stamp duty on all documents is an abuse of the tax powers, as the existence of this law and the levying of stamp duty should be only a matter to meet a heavy and unnatural expense of the government and is always considered, elsewhere, as an emergency act.

"We find that the abolition of this tax could be borne by the Territory at this time and that the burden of this tax is generally put on individuals before they acquire a home, and it is extremely obnoxious in character and should be done away with, excepting in such cases where documents were recorded and not stamped previous to the passage of this act."

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PERSONALS

(From Wednesday Advertiser) Thomas Dunn of Maui, is in town for a few days on business. Wallace C. Weirick will visit the Coast and the East. His stay will be indefinite.

A week ago today a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Arruda of Waihae Road, Kaimuki. Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Bettencourt of McInerney Tract, off School Street, yesterday welcomed the arrival of a son.

George, the two-day-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ferreira, of 80 School Street, died on Monday and was buried yesterday in the Catholic Cemetery, King Street.

William H. Donnelly and Mrs. Rachel R. Schmidt were married on Monday by Rev. Henry K. George, pastor of Kaunakapili Church, Palama, the witnesses being Clement H. Parker and Mrs. Helen Parker.

J. P. Fernandez Jr., of Hilo, who spent some weeks in the mainland on business, has returned from San Francisco. He is manager of a new grocery company recently established in Hilo and expects to return shortly to his Big Island home.

Henry P. Nye, of Lovejoy & Co., and Miss Irene Schumann were married last Saturday by Rev. Father Stephen J. Alencastre, pastor of the Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart, Punahoa. The witnesses were Aloysius Spencer and Miss Alvina Kekumano, sister of the bride.

(From Thursday Advertiser) Elmer M. Cheatham of Kaula is again a visitor in the city.

Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Weihe and little daughter, Mary Jane of Dubuque, Iowa, are at the Colonial.

Mrs. Charles G. Gilliland, who was operated yesterday at the Boretan Sanitarium, is reported as doing nicely.

A daughter, Dorothy, was born last Saturday to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Eldred, of 1139 Kamehameha IV Road, Kailua.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Warren French, of 1022 Kamehameha IV Road, Kailua, welcomed last Sunday the arrival of a son, who has been named Ralph.

J. P. Fernandez Jr., of Hilo, who returned recently from a business visit in San Francisco, will leave for his home in the Big Island.

Rev. Samuel K. Kamajopili, assistant pastor of Kaunakapili Church, Palama, who attended the convention of the Hawaiian churches in Kaula last week, has returned to his home.

Mrs. D. Carson and Miss Maggie Maikaha were married on Thursday by Elder Ernest L. Miner, of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, the witnesses being John Parker and Kamona Figeon.

With Rev. Father Reginald Exandorn of the Catholic Cathedral officiating, Primo G. Clemente and Miss Bernarda Capayanan, prominent young Filipinos of the city, were married on Tuesday. The witnesses were Guadalupe Villanueva and Marianna Pile.

Fritz Christian Koelling of Kaneohe, Oahu, and Miss M. Meta Riedel of Halesi were married at the home of the bride by Rev. Hans Isenberg on the evening of April 19, in the presence of some thirty of their intimate friends.

Mr. Koelling has been employed as a civil engineer on the Kailua ditch proposition, which is now completed for the present. The newly married couple will go to Honolulu—Garden Island.

NATIONAL GUARDSMEN STILL ON THE BORDER

Bulletins of the eastern department of the army convey information that national guard organizations which were called into the regular service in connection with the border trouble are being held there as national guard and not as organized militia, there being a difference between the two terms as used by the army.

The former refers to a company of militia organized and sworn in according to the national defense act of last year which to some extent federalized the organization, while "organized militia" refers to the old guard regiments organized under the Dick law. The transition from one to the other as far as the individual member is concerned, was effected by taking a new oath, which added the extra obligation of serving three years in the reserve.

According to the bulletin the members of the militia now in federal service who have not, and will not take the new oath will be discharged and returned to their homes.

The bulletin relates to a telegram received at the eastern department which is quoted as follows: "Organizations in the federal service under calls of May 9 and June 18, 1916, and now continued in federal service are retained as national guard organizations under the Act of June 3, 1916, and set as organized militia under the Dick Law. Officers and enlisted men who have not yet or do not now take the national guard oath will be mustered out, dropped from the rolls of the organizations and be returned to their home stations. Property in their hands should be taken up."

CITIZENSHIP QUESTION BEFORE CIRCUIT COURT

The question of whether or not Porto Ricans resident in Hawaii are citizens of the United States under the Porto Rican Citizenship Act approved by the President March 2 of this year was argued in the circuit court yesterday morning. The specific case at bar is the application of Manuel Olivieri Sanchez for a writ of mandamus to compel the county clerk to register him as a voter. Lightfoot & Lightfoot are appearing for the petitioner and Deputy City Attorney Crispy for the county. The action has been brought for the purpose of obtaining a ruling as to the status of Porto Ricans in Hawaii. Sanchez has lived in Hawaii since 1900.

WATERFRONT DUMFONDS PLAN IS SMASHED FLAT

Price Asked For Property On Waterfront Dumfounds Members of Commission

The acquisition by the Territory of the Allen & Robinson property on the waterfront, Ewa of Fort Street and between Queen Street and the harbor, which was wanted by the board of harbor commissioners for future improvements and for the purchase of which an item has now been included in the loan fund bill now before the legislature, slipped into nothingness yesterday afternoon like a "fade-out" on a movie screen, when the harbor board learned, to its astonishment and dismay, that the owners wanted nearly \$350,000 more for it than the appraised value.

The board learned, when it was too late to do anything, that the appraisers had neglected the little formality of consulting the owners of the property and had made the appraisal arbitrarily. The appraised value, as given to the harbor board and by it to the legislature, was \$374,450. An item for this amount, plus \$10,000 for legal expenses connected with the acquisition of the property, was included in the loan bill.

Yesterday Clarence Cooke, chairman of the house finance committee, went to the owners of the property and inquired if the amount was satisfactory to them. They told him it certainly was not; that they wanted about \$650,000 for the property.

Information communicated to the board of harbor commissioners at their meeting yesterday dumfounded them. There was nothing they could do, either, particularly in view of the fact that the value placed on the property by its owners is regarded by some as excessive.

Incidentally, the property is assessed at \$433,000. The discrepancy between the assessed value and the value placed on the property by its owners will probably be referred to the tax assessor and may result in the taxes on the property being greatly increased.

No great harm is done, according to one of the commissioners, by the inability of the Territory to acquire the property now. The board of harbor commissioners had not planned to build on it for some time to come, but wanted to acquire it for future improvements, it having been predicted by naval authorities that the time will come when Honolulu will need the room for a great wharf not less than 1000 feet long.

When money is appropriated in a loan fund bill, the law requires that it be paid out within two years, otherwise the appropriation lapses. For that reason the harbor board intends to wait until after the legislature adjourns and then institute condemnation proceedings against the property. Its value being thus fixed before the next legislative meets it is planned to have a new loan fund item for the next legislature to pay for the purchase of the property at its condemnation value.

Meanwhile, the \$374,450 for the purchase of the Allen & Robinson property will be deleted from the present loan fund bill.

JAPANESE CRUISER DUE HERE IN MAY

The Japanese cruiser Azuma, designated by the Mikado to convey to the United States the body of the late Ambassador Guthrie, will be in Honolulu early next month and will make a stay of three days at this port, according to cabled information received yesterday at the Japanese consulate from the Japanese minister of foreign affairs.

The Azuma will sail from Yokohama on April 28 and is due here on May 13, to sail again for a Coast port three days later.

Mrs. Guthrie will sail from Japan for her home by the S. S. Colombia. This visit of the Azuma, on its mournful errand, will be the first visit of a foreign warship to this port since the arrival of the former German gunboat Geier, now the property of the United States, and will be the first visit of a warship of an allied power in the history of the port.

Now that the United States is at war with the common enemy of Japan and America, there will be no restriction on the length of time the Azuma may remain in the harbor. The last Japanese warship to visit Honolulu was the battleship Hizen, which remained outside the three mile limit, patrolling the harbor entrance and waiting for the Geier to either come out to give battle or intern.

PACHECO BALKS AT PRAISE FOR DELEGATE

Speaker Holstein's concurrent resolution lauding the Delegate for his conspicuous ability and unswerving fidelity" was adopted yesterday by the senate without a dissenting vote. Senator Quinn was unable to repress a rebellious grin, but the rest of his colleagues went through with it with creditable stolidity.

All except Pacheco. There must be an Irish strain somewhere in the Senator's ancestry, though his name would not suggest it. "This senate," he said, "may take my vote any way it chooses, but I decline to cast it." There was a little parliamentary argument about it, but inasmuch as it is no more profitable to try to make a man vote than to have him drink, it ended in the senator having his way. Technically, the vote was unanimous.

ARMY OFFICERS CONFIDENT THAT VACANCIES IN RANKS CAN BE FILLED

Members of the guard who have families dependent upon them will be honorably discharged from military service under the terms of a formal order issued yesterday by the Governor to General Johnson, commanding the national guard of the Territory.

This is regarded as the first step in preparing the guard for mobilization, and guard officers and officials of the regular army here alike expressed their opinion that the guard would be called out very shortly.

"This order which Governor Pinkham has issued will mean that the guard will be greatly reduced in numbers," said General Strong, commander of the department, yesterday. "It does not mean, however, that the guard will be emasculated, or that it will lose any of its importance to the Territory. We are confident that the Territory will immediately fill up the vacancies and that the guard will be recruited to full war numbers as soon as the order for re-enlistment is issued."

The formal order to General Johnson by the Governor follows:

"Sir: The commanding general of the Hawaiian Department requests the following orders of the war department, the chief militia bureau, be immediately put into force:

"1. The secretary of war authorizes the discharge of all enlisted men of the national guard who have families dependent upon them for support, the members of which would, while the soldier is in federal service, be entitled to the benefits provided by the acts of congress approved August 29 and September 6, 1916 (General Orders 47, war department, 1916), whether the men desire to be discharged or not.

"2. The word 'family' as used above includes only wife, children and dependent mother.

"3. No discharge should be granted under this authority without investigation sufficient to determine fully the facts in the case.

"The Hawaiian Department is of the opinion mobilization may be ordered at any moment, hence I direct the order be transmitted to regimental commanders by wireless at once.

Guard officers estimated yesterday that the guard will lose between twenty and twenty-five per cent of its numbers under the operation of this order, and that Oahu will suffer heaviest. Twenty per cent of the present strength of the guard is approximately nine hundred men, and the loss of them will bring the militia down to about thirty-six hundred officers and men. Of this number a certain percentage will undoubtedly be lost when put through the physical examination by the regular army surgeons. Just how great a percentage this loss will prove so one knows, but the army officials believe that it will be comparatively heavy, and may bring the total loss to the guard up to an additional thirty per cent, reducing the number of guardsmen who will prove available for service to approximately twenty-two hundred men.

It is unofficially reported that there are now more than one thousand men on the other islands who are anxious to enlist as soon as the word goes out from department headquarters granting the necessary permission, and General Strong believes that the remaining vacancies in the guard can be filled without difficulty, so that the Territory's quota of men will be more than met without the necessity of recruiting either to conscription or to volunteers.

It is known that the army officers in charge of that work here have worked out plans calling for five thousand men additional over and above the actual number of men in the guard, but General Strong said yesterday that should it prove possible to fill the ranks of the militia, thus giving four full regiments of infantry, a troop of cavalry, an engineer company and coast artillery companies, that the war department would be apt to feel that the Territory has done all that could be reasonably expected of it under the circumstances.

"Nothing is to be done that will interfere in any vital way with the industries of the Islands," said General Strong.

HOMESTEADERS MAY GET ANOTHER CHANCE

Kula's Resolution Would Amend the Organic Act

Representative Kula of Kauai Tuesday offered in the house a concurrent resolution which asks congress to amend the land laws of the Territory in a manner which will be of great benefit to homesteaders. The resolution would allow homesteaders who have been forced out of their holdings to take up one additional homestead. The resolution, after a number of "whereas" and "therefore," reads as follows:

Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the President of the Senate of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, and the Delegate to Congress from Hawaii."

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